ABSTRACT

A method of managing a network device, includes providing a command-line interface application programming interface (CLI-API) compatible with a command-line interface (CLI) of the network device, receiving instructions from an application that calls one or more routines in the CLI application programming interface, and generating at least one command in response to receiving instructions from the application wherein the at least one command is compatible with the CLI of the network device. An apparatus includes a remote serial command-line interface (RS-CLI) device having a storage device capable of storing instructions, a network port capable of being connected to the network and capable of processing a network protocol stack in addition to receiving the instructions, a serial port capable of processing a serial protocol and capable of being connected to the non-application enabled network device, and a processor capable of processing instructions stored in the storage area of the RS-CLI device.

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